

**U.S. Bureau of Reclamation**  
**Emergency Condition Notification Form**

**Date:** Sunday July 10, 2011

**Time:** 11:00 AM (MDT)

**Facility Affected:** Yellowtail Dam **River(s) Affected:** Bighorn River

**Organizations Receiving this Notification: None**

Current conditions at Yellowtail Dam do not require formal notifications. The status update below is for informational purposes only.

**Condition Description**

Current Conditions – Yellowtail Dam and Bighorn River:

- Reservoir Elevation: 3649.88 feet, an increase of 0.5 feet in the last 24-hours
- Elevation of the top of Exclusive Flood Control Pool: 3657.0 feet
- Reservoir Release: 8,500 cubic-feet per second (cfs)
- 24-hour average inflow: 12,400 cfs
- Feet to Fill (Top of Joint-Use): 0.00 feet (the reservoir filled to this level on June 26)
- Exclusive Flood Control Storage Utilized: 54.1 percent of 258,331 acre-feet available

No changes in releases from Yellowtail Dam are scheduled today.

There are no dam safety related conditions or concerns with Yellowtail or Yellowtail Afterbay Dams. Inflows and releases from Yellowtail Dam have dropped below levels requiring an elevated response level and increased notifications to downstream authorities and affected agencies. Should these conditions change, Reclamation will resume these notifications.

**1. Potential River Levels and Times of Arrival**

The following provides the approximate travel times and river stage rises from Yellowtail Dam to reach key locations along the Bighorn River:

<u>Bighorn River Location</u>	<u>Approximate Travel Time</u>	<u>Approximate River Stage Reduction per 1,000 cfs Reduction</u>
Two Leggins Bridge	7-9 hours	NA
Hardin	10-12 hours	NA
Confluence with the Yellowstone River	24 hours	NA

**2. Actions Taken by Reclamation**

Reclamation continues to monitor the snowmelt runoff conditions in the Bighorn River Basin. Please be advised that future updates regarding Yellowtail Dam operations will be posted on the Bureau of Reclamation, Montana Area Office website at <http://www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao>

**3. Actions Expected of Downstream Agencies**

Be advised that the reservoir level in Bighorn Lake will continue rising in the coming weeks to approximately 3655.0 feet. Additionally, there is potential that flows from Yellowtail Dam to the Bighorn River may need to be increased again in the coming weeks as the Exclusive Flood Control Pool fills.

**4. For Additional Information**

Steve Davies  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Montana Area Office  
Office: 406-247-7322  
Cell: 406-855-1446  
[sdavies@usbr.gov](mailto:sdavies@usbr.gov)

**6. Media Inquiries:**

Paula Holwegner  
U.S Bureau of Reclamation  
Montana Area Office  
Office: 406-247-7300  
Cell: 406-670-5158  
[pholwegner@usbr.gov](mailto:pholwegner@usbr.gov)